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1985/02/21

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NOFORN UNINTEL

PRIORITY -- ~~SECRET~~ -- GENSER MESSAGE -- 7440 CHARACTERS
REFERENCE FROM COMIPAC HONOLULU HI, SSN 0 AT 21 0206Z FEB85

BT
~~SECRET~~
SECTION 01 CF 02
REF: IPAC DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 35-85 (U)

(IIPS REC. I.D. PN 001) (U)
(U) INDIVIDUAL ITEMS MAY BE FURTHER DISSEMINATED TO U.S. INTEL-
IGENCE USERS BASED ON CLASSIFICATION AND NEED TO KNOW. REQUESTS
FOR RELEASE/DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS SUMMARY TO A
FOREIGN GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO COMIPAC FOR APPROVAL IN
ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY.
(U) FORWARD WITHOUT SERVICE. INFORMATION PERISHABLE.

/-/-/-/-/-/-/-/-/-/
(U) THE SECURE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR IPAC ANALYSTS IS 6223,
UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

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(U) THIS SUMMARY CONTAINS THREE ITEMS:

1)
2)
3)

1) (S/NOFORN/UNINTEL) /-/-/-/-/-/-/-/-/-/

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CHINA: MILITARY REGION COMMANDER STRENGTHENS HIS POSITION.
A RECENT YUNNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE REPORT INDICATES THAT LI
SHENG, A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST
PARTY (CCP) AND SHENYANG MILITARY REGION COMMANDER, WAS A MEMBER OF
THE DELEGATION WHICH ACCOMPANIED CCP GENERAL SECRETARY HU YAOBANG TO
YUNNAN PROVINCE RECENTLY. THE GROUP ALSO INCLUDED YANG SHANGKUN,
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION AND THE
STATE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION, AND YU QIULI, DIRECTOR OF THE
GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY. IT
IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE PROVINCIAL SERVICE REPORT IDENTIFIED
LI SHENG ONLY AS A POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBER, PROBABLY IN REFERENCE TO

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PRIORITY -- ~~SECRET~~ -- GENSER MESSAGE -- 1924 CHARACTERS
REFERENCE FROM COMIPAC HONOLULU HI, SSN 0 AT 21 0206Z FEB85

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FINAL SECTION OF 02

THE YUNNAN MILITARY REGION COMMANDER.

THE FACT THAT LI ACCOMPANIED HU TO YUNNAN COULD BE VIEWED AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR LI'S ASCENDANCY INTO A POSITION OF HIGHER AUTHORITY WITHIN THE MILITARY. LI, WHO IS IN HIS EARLY SEVENTIES, HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS A POLITICAL OPPORTUNIST; HE IS THE ONLY COMMANDER TO SURVIVE THE MILITARY REGION LEADERSHIP RESHUFFLE IN 1982. HE HAS SINCE PUBLICLY SUPPORTED DENG XIAOPING'S REFORMIST POLICY VIS-A-VIS THE PROFESSIONALIZATION OF THE MILITARY AND, THEREFORE, IS LINKED TO THE REFORMIST CAMP. ADDITIONALLY, DURING THE RECENT NATIONAL DAY PARADE ON 01 OCT 84, ALTHOUGH LISTED IN HIS CAPACITY AS A POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBER, LI WAS ONE OF THE TWO MILITARY REGIONAL COMMANDERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT (THE OTHER WAS QIN DEYI, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE PARADE). IN VIEW OF THESE FACTORS, IT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING TO SEE LI'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION AND/OR THE STATE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION AS A RESULT OF THE ANTICIPATED PERSONNEL REALIGNMENT IN THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP LATER THIS YEAR.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: CAIR

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